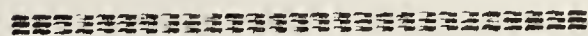


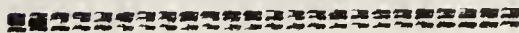
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THE
RURAL DISTRICT
OF
SAINT AUSTELL



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH





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To the Chairman and Councillors of the
St. Austell Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the District for the year 1968.

This is the first such report of the Rural District of St. Austell which now includes the Borough of Lostwithiel.

The statistics correspond closely with The National statistics, and in this are a cause for satisfaction. The comparative absence of notifiable disease is a tribute to the efficiency of the comprehensive cover of vaccination given from infancy throughout school life.

A disquieting feature is the high percentage of illegitimate births - just over 10% -. Sex is probably publicised more nowadays than ever before, the Family Planning Act and the Abortion Act have both been passed, and yet year after year the percentage of illegitimate births grow. Many people feel that sex education in school would help, but one cannot avoid the feeling that sex education could only be successful if the responsibilities of pregnancy and parenthood were instilled first and foremost. This should prove a fruitful field for Health educators.

The Chief Public Health Inspector has contributed substantially to the Report. I would like to thank the Officers of the Council for their co-operation and goodwill and particularly the Public Health Staff for their constant help.

I take great pleasure in being able to take this opportunity of expressing not only my thanks but thanks of the Public Health Department to the Health Committee for their interest and forward thinking in all matters affecting the health of the people of St. Austell Rural District.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant.

J. McGovern.

SECTION A

National and Social Conditions of the Area

Area	...	85,545 acres
Population	...	24,100
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	8,461
Rateable Value	...	£878,767
Product of Penny Rate	...	£3,500

The St. Austell Rural District, which now includes Lostwithiel, extends across the County with resorts on both coasts. The tourist trade contributes much to the economy of the district, while agriculture and China Clay are the basic all year round industries. The China Clay industry by its export trade, which shows steady growth, has become a valuable national source of income.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate/1,000 Population</u>	
				<u>Rural District</u>	<u>England and Wales.</u>
Legitimate	189	162)	391	16.2	
Illegitimate	21	19)			
Corrected for comparison with other areas				17.3	16.9

Illegitimate births per cent of total
live births 10.23

<u>Still Births</u>				<u>Rate/1,000 Live and Still Births</u>	
				<u>Rural District</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
Legitimate	3	4)	8	20	14
Illegitimate	1	Nil)			

Total Live & Still Births 214 185 399

<u>Infant Deaths</u>			
Legitimate	1	4)	8
Illegitimate	3	Nil)	

Rate/1,000 total live births 20 18

<u>Neo-natal deaths</u>				<u>Rate/1,000 Live Births</u>	
(under 4 weeks)	2	2	4	10	12.3

<u>Early neo-natal deaths</u>					
(under 1 week)	2	Nil	2	5	10.5

<u>Peri-natal deaths</u>				<u>Rate/1,000 Live and Still Births</u>	
Still births and deaths under 1 week	6	4	10	25	25

Maternal deaths Nil Nil

<u>Deaths (all ages and causes)</u>				<u>Rate/1,000 Population</u>	
	119	127	246	12.6	
Corrected for comparisons with other areas				11.8	11.9

<u>Causes of Death</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1)	Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases.	-	1
2)	Tuberculosis of the respiratory system.	2	-
3)	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	2
4)	" " lung, bronchus	9	-
5)	" " breast	-	5
6)	" " uterus	-	4
7)	Leukaemia	1	-
8)	Other malignant neoplasm etc.,	18	11
9)	Diabetes Mellitus	2	1
10)	Other endocrine etc., diseases	-	2
11)	Anaemias	-	1
12)	Meningitis	-	1
13)	Other diseases of the nervous system etc.	1	4
14)	Hypertensive disease	2	-
15)	Ischaemic Heart Disease	42	32
16)	Other forms of Heart Disease	3	13
17)	Cerebrovascular Disease	18	37
18)	Other diseases of the circulatory system	9	8
19)	Pneumonia	11	8
20)	Bronchitis and emphysema	6	2
21)	Asthma	1	-
22)	Other diseases of the respiratory system	3	2
23)	Peptic Ulcer	-	1
24)	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	2	2
25)	Cirrhosis of Liver	1	1
26)	Other diseases of the digestive system	-	2
27)	Hyperplasia of the Prostate	2	-
28)	Other diseases of the genito-urinary system	2	-
29)	Congenital Anomalies	1	2
30)	Birth injury, difficult labour etc.	-	1
31)	Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	2	-
32)	Symptoms and ill - defined conditions	3	6
33)	Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	1
34)	All other accidents	4	-
35)	Self inflicted injuries	1	-
36)	All other external causes	-	1
		153	151

Of the females deaths 58% occurred in the over 75 years age group in comparison to 38% of males in the same category. This is in line with national figures which show that women have a longer expectation of life.

The main causes of death were as usual diseases of the heart and circulatory system, which accounted for 164 deaths, while cancer caused 54 deaths, of which 9 were due to lung cancer.

The diseases of the heart and circulation caused almost 54% of deaths, while cancer of all forms caused nearly 18% of deaths, in other words these two diseases alone were responsible for just over 70% of all deaths.

Causes of death in infants

<u>Cause of death</u>	<u>Age in Weeks</u>	
	-4 weeks	4 - 52
Prematurity	2	
Difficult Labour	1	
Meningitis	1	
Congenital Anomalies		2
Pneumonia		2

SECTION B

Public Health Staff

(a) Medical Officer of Health

J. McGovern, M.B.Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Area Health Office,
Moorland Road,
St. Austell.
St. Austell 2206,

(b) Public Health Inspectors

H.G. Lawless, Cert. S.I.B., Food Inspector's Certificate.
T.J. Down, Cert. S.I.B.

(c) Clerk

Mrs. E.A. Freer.

Laboratory Facilities

These were available at the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Infirmary (City), Truro.

Personal Services

These services are provided by the Cornwall County Council and include such activities as home nursing, domiciliary midwifery, health visiting, vaccination and immunisation, maternity and child welfare, ante and post natal care, home help, visits to the elderly and the various aspects of school health.

An extension of the welfare services has taken place, and in order to bring about uniformly the mental welfare and welfare sections of the County service have been combined. This is undoubtedly a move in the right direction, the only difficulty being that the welfare and mental welfare officers' areas of work do not now correspond with the existing Health areas. These services have been tailored to coincide with the areas of the County covered by the consultant psychiatrists, of whom there are 5, whereas there are 7 Health areas. In the past the welfare department operated throughout the whole Rural District from the Moorland Road clinic, now the cover from Moorland Road stops at the A,30 while welfare cover for the remainder comes from the Health Area Offices at Truro. These early difficulties should, we hope, soon be resolved.

Clinics functioning throughout the area are given, since all clinics cater for people from the Rural District area.

Clinics

The following clinics are held at the places and dates indicated:-

Child Welfare	(Roche	- Victory Hall - 1st & 3rd Tuesday each month
	(Indian Queens	- Victory Hall - 3rd Wednesday each month
	(Summercourt	- Memorial Hall - 2nd Wednesday each month
	(Par	- Gott Hall - 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month
	(Bethel	- Church Hall - 2nd Wednesday each month
	(Charlestown	- Church Hall - 4th Wednesday each month
	(St. Austell	- Moorland Road - 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month
	(Newquay	- Red Cross Hall - 1st and 3rd Thursday each month
	(Newquay	- St. Columb Minor - 2nd and 4th Thursday each month
	(St. Austell	- Penrice Maternity Hospital - every Wednesday morning
Ante Natal	(Newquay	- St. John's Ambulance Hall - every Thursday

Cervical Cytology (Smear Test)	(St. Austell - Moorland Road) (Newquay - Hospital)	by appointment
Orthopaedic	(St. Austell - Moorland Road - every Tuesday morning (Newquay - St. John's Ambulance Hall - every Thursday afternoon	
Tuberculosis	(St. Austell - Hospital - every Monday (Newquay - Hospital - 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesday of the month	
Dental	(St. Austell - Moorland Road - Daily (Newquay - Berry Road - Three times per week	
Ophthalmic	(St. Austell - Moorland Road - Tuesday by appointment (Newquay - Hospital - By arrangement	
Ear Nose and Throat	(St. Austell - Moorland Road - By arrangement (Newquay - Hospital - By arrangement	
Psychiatric	(St. Austell - Moorland Road - Each Monday morning and Friday afternoon	
Family Planning	(St. Austell - Moorland Road - 2nd, 3rd & 4th Friday evening 6.30 - 8.0 (2nd Monday afternoon 2.30 - 4.0) (By appointment	
Child Guidance	(St. Austell - Moorland Road - every Thursday	

SECTION C

Sanitary Conditions

Water

About 6,500 houses in the Rural District are supplied by water from the North and Mid Cornwall Water Board, which supply is the subject of frequent testing over various parishes with almost uniformity good bacteriological results. The chemical standard of the water is satisfactory. Belowda, Tregonetha and Rosenannon are not on a piped supply, in the two former cases supply is by well and by a spring at Rosenannon. Private supplies to individual isolated premises are sampled and advice given e.g. use of Berkefeld Filter. There are no stand pipes nowadays. The fluoride content of the water supply is low throughout this Rural area. The list of parishes having a mains supply is as follows:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No. of Houses.</u>
Colan	155
St. Columb	944
Creed	16
St. Dennis	731
St. Enoder	366
St. Ewe	122
St. Goran	284
Grampound	144
Lanlivery	51
Lostwithiel	705
Luxulyan	123
St. Mawgan	306

St. Mewan	723
St. Michael Caerhays	-
Roche	418
St. Sampson	83
St. Stephen	1,314
St. Wenn	-
<u>Total</u>	<u>6,485</u>

Sewerage

Although no sewerage schemes were undertaken the preparatory work was undertaken to provide future sewerage in places at present without e.g. arrangements were made with Newquay, for inclusion of Quintrel Downs sewerage, into the Newquay sewers. The scheme for Sticker was prepared - this scheme being of great urgency as this village has increased by 150 per cent in the past six years. Apart from the brake having been put on future development, due to lack of main sewerage, the present need is urgent on public health grounds. The St. Columb and St. Mawgan sewerage schemes which have been on the urgent list for some time are being combined for presentation to the Ministry as a single scheme. The parishes of Creed, Lanlivery, Luxulyan, St. Ewe, St. Wenn and St. Michael Caerhays are still without sewerage.

Public Conveniences

The Council own and maintain ten public conveniences. The Engineer is responsible for their maintenance and cleansing.

Rodent Control

Some increase in general infestation necessitated entering into a contract with Rentokil Ltd., for all work to be done. Domestic and commercial premises, farms, sewage works, sewers and refuse tips have all been satisfactorily dealt with.

Beaches

Two lifeguards are employed throughout the season on the Councils only surfing beach, which is considered dangerous at times for bathing. There were no fatalities there this year. A Land-Rover is used on the beach for carrying life saving equipment and it also enables the lifeguards to attend incidents very quickly.

Scrap Metal Dealers

Dealers continue to be registered and we have been of some slight assistance to the Police regarding stolen metals.

Animal Boarding Establishments

There are now only two in the area and these are kept in a very satisfactory state.

National Assistance Act 1968

Five persons have been buried and fees incurred have been paid for out of the rate fund.

Petroleum Acts

Seventy nine premises are licensed. Tests certificates are now required for all tanks over 20 years old, and this has so far brought to light two defective tanks - which have been replaced.

Litter

The Act has not been of much help, it being almost impossible to get sufficient evidence for a court action against an offender. Lay-by and other bins are emptied as required. Our beaches are scavenged during the season, and there are only small isolated trouble spots in the area.

Refuse Collection

Five vehicles make a weekly collection throughout the district except (a) where the dwellings are very isolated, and in a few cases it is done fortnightly. (b) at the R.A.F. Station St. Mawgan where (under contract) many bins are emptied daily.

In the summer twice weekly collections are made from hotels and caravan sites this being necessary to keep conditions sanitary. Two side loaders were replaced with new rear loading compression type vehicles during the year.

Refuse Disposal

Two Semi-Controlled tips only in use with mechanised scraper/Shovel.

Housing

Twenty five houses in the Rural District were the subject of Demolition or Closing Orders. Defects were remedied by informal action in respect of thirty three houses.

Improvement Grants

Number approved in 1968:-	Standard	24
	Discretionary	68
		<hr/>
		92
		<hr/>

involving eventual payment of about £17,500.

New Houses

Completed during the year:-	
By the Council	60
By private enterprise in the Rural District	120
	<hr/>
	180
	<hr/>

Statistics of Inspections and Visits,
By Public Health Inspectors - Rural District

Water Samples	26
Drainage	114
Refuse Service	91
Rodent Control, and Sewer Test Baiting	93
Caravan Sites	72
Offices, Shops and Railway	
Premises Act	14
Petroleum Act	14
Dangerous Buildings	-
Housing Inspections	201
Improvement Grants	287
Meat Inspection	391
Food shops, Caterers	40
Miscellaneous	175

SECTION D

Housing

St. Austell Rural District

Applications for Council Houses

Total No. of live applications	237
" " " families without separate homes	13
" " " " in unfit houses	48
" " " " overcrowded	24
" " " unmarried persons applying	-
" " requiring houses for other reasons	152

(a) Council Houses Completed during the Year

St. Stephen	46
Roche	14
	<u>60</u>

(b) Proposals for 1969

Polgooth	10 O.A.P. dwellings
Lostwithiel	17 (3 O.A.P.) dwellings
St. Stephen	33 dwellings

(c) Overall position at 31st December 1968

The Council now owns 1,065 dwellings.

SECTION E

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Ice Cream

Almost all retail premises sell the pre packed article which is stored in suitable refrigerators. The shops and mobile vans selling from bulk supplies are regularly inspected to ensure that all equipment and hand washing facilities are in proper working order.

Cafes, Restaurants and Food Catering Premises

Regular inspections of such establishments are made and in the main very good standards of cleanliness are being maintained. On all occasions, staff are urged to pay attention to the cleanliness of their overalls and particularly to wash their hands frequently.

Meat Inspection - Slaughterhouses

There are now only six small private slaughterhouses in the area, all owned and occupied by country butchers. The quality of animals they purchase is first class and this is reflected in the very small amount of condemnations found during the 100 per cent inspection.

Milk Supplies

Although much of the milk retailed throughout the Rural District is pasteurised, several producers and retailers prefer to continue with the sale of raw milk. Throughout the year increased sampling of raw milk was stepped up in order to gather factual information regarding the presence of Brucella. This extra sampling has brought home to the producers and retailers the need for Brucella free herds, and by the end of 1968 fairly consistently good milk samples were being obtained. Similar investigations carried out in relation to Cornish Cream has shown an absence of Brucella infection.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	447	-	-	140	405	-
Number Inspected	447	-	-	140	405	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticeri</u>						
Whole Carcase Condemned	Nil	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	20	-	-	2	6	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticeri	4.5	-	-	1.4	1.5	-
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>						
Whole carcase condemned	Nil	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	-	-	-	4	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	Nil	-	-	-	1.	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	-	-	-	-	-
Gross Weight Condemned (Estimated)	190 lbs	-	-	5 lbs	45 lbs	-

Other Foods

Condemnations:-

207 lbs Cooked Ham, Pork Shoulder etc. Canned Meat.
452 Head of frozen hens, chicken ducks etc.
18 cwts Bacon.
6½ stone Fish Fillets.
2 cwts Peeled Potatoes.
113 Tins and Packets of various meat and vegetable products.

SECTION F

Prevalence of and control over infectious and other diseases

The following notifications of infectious diseases were received.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>1968</u>
	<u>No. of cases - St. Austell Rural</u>
Measles	3
Pneumonia	1
Pulmonary tuberculosis	1
Infective jaundice	1

Immunisation

A comprehensive programme of immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio, measles and smallpox is carried out, either through County Council Clinics or by family doctors, from infancy to the end of school life. In addition at eleven years of age B.C.G. vaccination against Tuberculosis is carried out in school. The results of the success of these measures can be gathered from the gradual disappearance of many diseases which were a major cause of morbidity not many years ago.

Tuberculosis

The number of cases on the register at 31st December, 1968 was:-

<u>Pulmonary</u>	48 males	18 females
<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	3 males	2 females

This shows a marked drop from the previous year.

Tuberculosis Prevention

Although the number of deaths from tuberculosis has diminished very notably over the years, and the notification of new cases has diminished also, but less markedly, a vigorous policy of prevention has been pursued in the County of Cornwall. School children in the age group 11 years are offered B.C.G. vaccination against the disease. In 1968 following preliminary testing of 780 children in the selected age group, 612 children received B.C.G. Children who have already received the vaccine in early life and show a positive reaction on testing do not need vaccination and hence the discrepancy between those tested and those receiving the B.C.G.

In addition to the above, all new cases are visited by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor in order to assist in any measures needed to ensure continuation of treatment, cases on the list receive follow-up visits, and contacts of cases are visited and advice given regarding X-ray examination. Patients receive advice regarding the need for care in preventing the spread of the disease to contacts.

SECTION G

St. Austell Rural District

Factories Act, 1937 & 1948

Annual Report - Part 1

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	27	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	74	5	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	101	7	-	-

Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) Section 9.					
Lighting of sanitary conveniences	-	-	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2)	Section 133		Section 134		
		No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel making etc.	4	-	-	-	-	-
Household linen	4	-	-	-	-	-

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

Registrations and General Inspections

Class of premises (1)	Number of premises newly registered during the year (2)	Total number of registered premises at end of year (3)	Number of Reg. Premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year (4)
Offices	1	33	11
Retail shops	-	59	36
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	5	4
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	12	9
Fuel storage depots	-	4	1
Totals	1	113	61

Number of visits of all kinds (including general inspections) to registered premises

65

Analysis by Workplace of persons employed in Registered Premises

Class of workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	114
Retail shops	203
Wholesale departments, warehouses	32
Catering establishments open to the public	45
Canteens	1
Fuel storage depots	8
Total	403
Total Males	197
Total Females	206

